Numb. 252

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Narratur & priſci Catonis
Sæpe Mero caluiſſe Virtus. Hor.

From *Thurſday November* 16. to *Saturday November* 18. 1710.

From my own Apartment, November 17.

THE following Letter, and ſeveral others to the ſame Purpoſe, accuſe me of a Rigour of which I am far from being guilty, to wit, the diſallowing the chearful Uſe of Wine.

Mr. Bickerſtaff, *From my Country-houſe, Oct.* 25.

'YOur Diſcourſe againſt Drinking in *Tueſday's Tatler* I like well enough in the main; but in my humble Opinion you are become too rigid where you ſay to this Effect: [Were there only this ſingle Conſideration, that we are the leſs Maſters of our ſelves if we drink the leaſt Proportion beyond the Exigence of Thirſt.] I hope no one drinks Wine to allay this Appetite. This ſeems to be deſigned for a ſoftier Indulgence of Nature; for it were hard to ſuppoſe, that the Author of Nature, who impoſed upon her her Neceſſities and Pains, does not allow her her Pleaſures, and we may reckon among the latter the moderate Uſe of the Grape: And though I am as much againſt Exceſs, or whatever approaches it, as your ſelf, yet I conceive one may lafely go farther than the Bounds you there preſcribe, not only without forfeiting the Title of being one's own Maſter, but alſo to poſſeſs it in a much greater Degree. If a Man's expreſſing himſelf upon any Subject with more Life and Vivacity, more Variety of Idea's, more copiouſly, more fluently, and more to the Purpoſe, argues it, he thinks clearer, ſpeaks more ready, and with greater Choice of comprehenſive and ſignificant Terms. I have the good Fortune now to be intimate with a Gentleman remarkable for this Temper, who has an inexhauſtible Source of Wit to entertain the Curious, the Grave, the Humorous, and the Frolick. He can transform himſelf into different Shapes, and adapt himſelf to every Company; yet in a Coffee-houſe, or in the ordinary Courſe of Affairs, appears rather dull than ſprightly. You can ſeldom get him to the Tavern, but when once he is arrived to his Pint, and begins to look about and like his Company, you admire a Thouſand Things in him, which before lay buried. Then you diſcover the Brightneſs of his Mind, and the Strength of his Judgment, accompanied with the moſt graceful Mirth. In a Word, by this enlivening Aid, he is whatever is polite, inſtructive, and diverting. What makes him ſtill more agreeable is, that he tells a Story, ſerious or comical, with as much Delicacy of Humour as *Cervantes* himſelf. And for all this, at other Times, even after a long Knowledge of him, you ſhall ſcarce diſcern in this incomparable Perſon a whit more than what might be expected from one of a common Capacity. Doubtleſs, there are Men of great Parts that are guilty of downright Baſhfulneſs, that by a ſtrange Heſitation and Reluctance to ſpeak, murder the fineſt and moſt elegant Thoughts, and render the moſt lively Conceptions flat and heavy.

'In this Caſe a certain Quantity of my White or Red Cordial, which you will, is an eaſie, but an infallible Remedy. It awakens the Judgment, quickens Memory, ripens Underſtanding, diſperſes Melancholy, chears the Heart; in a Word, reſtores the whole Man to himſelf and his Friends without the leaſt Pain or Indiſpoſition to the Patient. To be taken only in the Evening in a reaſonable Quantity before going to Bed. *Note*, My Bottles are ſealed with Three Flower-de-Luces and a Bunch of Grapes. Beware of Counterfeits. I am,

Your moſt Humble Servant, &c.

Whatever has been ſaid againſt the Uſe of Wine, upon the Suppoſition that it enfeebles the Mind, and renders it unfit for the Duties of Life, bears forcibly to the Advantage of that delicious Juice, in Caſes where it only heightens Converſation, and brings to Light agreeable Talents, which otherwiſe would have lain concealed under the Oppreſſion of an unjuſt Modeſty. I muſt acknowledge I have ſeen many of the Temper mentioned by this Correſpondent, and own, Wine may very allowably be uſed in a Degree above the Supply of meer Neceſſity by ſuch as labour under Melancholy, or are Tongue-ty'd by Modeſty. It is certainly a very agreeable Change, when we ſee a Glaſs raiſe a lifeleſs Converſation into all the Pleaſures of Wit and good Humour. But when *Caska* adds to his natural Impudence the Fluſter of a Bottle, that which Fools called Fire when he was ſober, all Men abhor as Outrage when he is drunk. Thus he that in the Morning was only ſaucy, is in the Evening tumultuous. It makes one ſick to hear one of theſe Fellows ſay, They love a Friend and a Bottle. Noiſy Mirth has ſomething too ruſtick in it to be conſidered without Terror by Men of Politeneſs: But while the Diſcourſe improves in a well-choſen Company, from the Addition of Spirits which flow from moderate Cups, it muſt be acknowledged, that Leiſure Time cannot be more agreeably, or perhaps more uſefully employed than at ſuch Meetings: But there is a certain Prudence in this and all other Cir-

Circumſtances, which makes Right or Wrong in the Conduct of ordinary Life. Sir *Jeoffrey Wildacre* has nothing ſo much at Heart as that his Son ſhould know the World betimes: For this End he introduces him among the Sots of his own Age, where the Boy learns to laugh at his Father from the Familiarity with which he ſees him treated by his Equals. This the old Fellow calls Living well with his Heir, and teaching him to be too much his Friend to be impatient for his Eſtate. But for the more exact Regulation of Society in this and other Matters, I ſhall publiſh Tables of the Characters and Relations among Men, and by them inſtruct the Town in making Sets and Companies for a Bottle. This Humour of Sir *Jeoffrey* ſhall be taken Notice of in the firſt Place; for there is, methinks, a Sort of Inceſt in Drunkenneſs, and Sons are not to behold Fathers ſtripped of all Reverence.

It is ſhocking in Nature for the Young to ſee thoſe whom they ſhould have an Awe for in Circumſtances of Contempt. I ſhall therefore utterly forbid, that thoſe in whom Nature ſhould admoniſh to avoid too groſs Familiarities, ſhall be received in Parties of Pleaſure where there is the leaſt Danger of Exceſs. I ſhould run through the whole Doctrine of Drinking, but that my Thoughts are at preſent too much employed in the Modelling *my Court of Honour*; and altering the Seats, Benches, Bar, and Canopy from that of the Court wherein I laſt Winter ſate upon Cauſes of leſs Moment. By the Way I ſhall take an Opportunity to examine, what Method is to be taken to make Joiners and other Artificers get out of a Houſe they have once entered, not forgetting to tie them under proper Regulations. It is for Want of ſuch Rules, that I have a Day or two longer than I expected been tormented and deafened with Hammers, inſomuch that I neither can purſue this Diſcourſe, or anſwer the following and many other Letters of the higheſt Importance.

Mr. *Bickerſtaff*,

'WE are Man and Wife, and have a Boy and a Girl: The Lad Seventeen, the Maiden Sixteen. We are quarrelling about ſome Parts of their Education. I *Ralph* cannot bear that I muſt pay for the Girl's Learning on the Spinnet, when I know ſhe has no Ear. I *Bridge:* have not Patience to have my Son whipped becauſe he cannot make Verſes, when I know he is a Blockhead. Pray, Sir, inform us, Is it abſolutely neceſſary that all who wear Breeches muſt be taught to Rhime, all in Petticoats to touch an Inſtrument? Pleaſe to interpoſe in this and the like Caſes, to end much ſolid Diſtreſs which ariſes from trifling Cauſes, as it is common in Wedlock, and you will very much oblige us and ours.

Ralph, *Bridget*, } *Yokefellow.*

Advertiſements.

☞ The THIRD Volume of the LUCUBRATIONS of Iſaac Bickerſtaff Eſq; on a large Letter, in Octavo, being almoſt finiſhed; ſuch as pleaſe to ſubſcribe for it on a Royal Paper, to keep up their Sets, are deſired to ſend their Names to Charles Lilly, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, or John Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Where the Firſt and Second Volumes are to be delivered.

*** This Day is publiſhed, A Liſt of the Rt. Hon. the Lords Spiritual and Temporal: As alſo of the Knights and Commiſſioners of Shires, Citizens and Burgeſſes, choſen to ſerve in the Parliament of Great Britain, ſummoned to meet at Weſtminſter the 25th of November, 1710. Printed for J. Pemberton at the Buck and Sun againſt St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet. Price 2 d.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. a Ticket, and ſold as cheap as for Specie, at the Eagle and Child on Ludgate-Hill.

AT the GREAT WHEAT-SHEAF painted upon a Copper Plate, next the Bell-Savage-Inn on Ludgate-hill, are ſold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades: Likewiſe plain and flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Perſon ſhall give for them, and the aboveſaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

MOrning-Gowns for Men and Women, of all Sorts of rich Brocaded Silks, Japan'd Sattins, and great Variety of other rich Silks, Stuffs and Callicoe's, (being a freſh Parcel of choice Goods of Sam. Edwards and Richard Hockett, Mercers) are to be ſold at very low Rates at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs, the Price being ſet on each Gown.

TWO hundred and fifty Pounds to be paid on the Baptizing a Child, being a new Propoſal by the Profitable Society, which by only paying 2 s. 6 d. for a Policy, and 2 s. 6 d. towards each Claim, entitles you to the Sum above-mentioned. There is alſo a Second Society, where paying only 1 s. Contribution, you receive 100 l. Propoſals at large may be had gratis at the Wheat-Sheaf over-againſt Tom's Coffee-houſe in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-Garden.

THE Feaſt of the Natives of the County of Dorſet will be kept at Haberdaſhers-Hall in Maiden-lane on Thurſday the 7th of December next. Tickets may be had at Mr. John Baker's, Bookſeller, at Mercers-Hall in Cheapſide; at Mr. Tho. Petty's, Pattry-Cook, at Mark-lane End in Fenchurch-ſtreet. Note, That Eight Stewards have already engaged to ſtand for the Year enſuing; whoſe Names may be ſeen at Mr. John Baker's at Mercers-Hall.

THis is to give Notice, That there is an extraordinary Remedy for the STONE and STRANGURY, which lately cured a Gentleman that had for three Days a total Suppreſſion of Urine, who in half an Hour after he had taken it made above a Gallon of Water. It likewiſe brought away thirteen Stones from one, and nine from another, (who both live near Temple-Bar). To be had only of Mr. Rogers at the Sun in Fleet-ſtreet, and of Mr. Aylmer at the Three Pidgeons in Cornhil, Bookſellers, at 5 s. the Paper, with printed Directions.

*** A Catalogue of choice Books in Greek, Latin, and Engliſh, being the Library of a Merchant lately deceaſed: With other Books brought from beyond Sea, in moſt Faculties, neatly bound, and many gilt on the Back, will be ſold by Auction on Monday the 20th Inſtant, at Exeter-Exchange in the Strand, beginning every Evening at Five, and to continue daily till all are ſold. Catalogues may be had gratis at the Place of Sale, and the Books may be viewed every Day before the Sale begins.

*** Mr. Vickers the Clergyman, who cures the King's Evil, liveth in Sherburn-lane near Lombard-ſtreet. See his eaſy and ſafe Method of Cure; with ſeveral Obſervations of great Uſe and Service to People afflicted with that Diſtemper. Alſo a faithful Relation of ſundry Cures on Men, Women, and Children. The 4th Edition. Printed for S. Manſhip at the Ship againſt the Royal-Exchange, and A. Collins at the Black Boy againſt St. Dunſtan's Church. Pr. 6 d.

*** Care cured, Melancholy expelled, and Paſtime improved, with Pleaſure and Profit. By a new Pack of Playing Cards. With Figures curiouſly engraved. Price 1 s. Sold by Chr. Coningsby at the Ink-Bottle againſt Cliffords Inn-gate in Fetter-lane, Fleet-ſtreet; Mrs. Garraway's, at the South Entrance of the Royal Exchange; Mrs. Rogers againſt Bow Church; Mr. Jackſon the Corner of Wood ſtreet, Cheapſide; Mr. King in Weſtminſter-hall; and Mr. Morphew near Stationers-hall.

JOhn Clark, Writing Maſter, is removed from Wood-ſtreet to the Hand and Pen in Warwick-lane, by whom any Perſon may be taught Merchants Accompts, or the true Italian Method of Book-keeping, as now approved of by the Chief Accomptants and Traders in Europe. Such whoſe Buſineſs will not permit them to come in the Day time, may be taught by him every Monday, Wedneſday and Friday Evening from 6 to 8 a Clock at his Houſe; where alſo young Gentlemen are boarded.

THis is to advertiſe, That Henry Bull, at Peter-ſ rough Houſe on Mill-Bank, Weſtminſter, hath a large Part of the ſaid Houſe and Garden to be let, Part furniſh d and Part unfurniſhed, fit for a large Family, to be let by Leaſe or otherwiſe.

MRs. Symons's Sale of Goods is ſtill to be ſeen at the Naked Boy and Coat in Hentietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden. There being ſome few Tickets left, all Gentlemen and Ladies are deſired to be ſpeedy in taking out, it being to be drawn on Monday the 27th Inſtant.

THE Sale of Goods for 7500 l. which was to be drawn on Wedneſday laſt, for ſome weighty Reaſons is put off till the 29th of this Inſtant; and then it will certainly be drawn at Stationers-hall: And, for Satisfaction of all the Contributors, the Undertakers of the ſaid Sale have adviſed with eminent Counſel, who have given it under their Hands, that this Sale of Goods is not within the Act for Suppreſſing of Lotteries. The few remaining Tickets the Contributors are deſired to be expeditious in taking out at moſt of the Places mentioned in the printed Propoſals, and at the Undertaker's Houſe over-againſt Southampton-ſtreet in the Strand.